



City of Seattle  
Department of  
Planning and Development  
Diane Sugimura, Director

## Environmentally Critical Areas (ECA) Code and Policy Update Process

### WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

*Click on the gray bars to respond.*

Did you attend the January 21 Code and Policy Update Workshop? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If so, was the workshop informative? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Did you feel that your concerns were heard and/or recorded? ☐ Yes ☐ No

1. What is currently working well with the ECA regulations? What is not working as well?  
i don't know of anything working well within the ECA regulations, they are completely heavy handed in the demands and the actual goal of steep slope and safety, we are a city over 98% built up and we are taking extravagant measures for the few remaining sites- the reviews are picayune, burdensome and the ECA staff thinks it is cute to be over the top in it's demands. safety is a high priority for all of us- but their C.Y.A. indulgence has more to do with the recent lawsuits that actual in the field engineering- (Lakeview BVD and Brygger) The are NOT responsive in a timely manner, for a permit to take one or two years is absurd- i know of cases where it took 8 years!
2. What has been your experience with the ECA regulations (e.g., participated in the permit process, observed problems, etc.)? How have you been personally affected by the ECA regulations?  
When the roads were cut at near vertical cut and lasted w/o any protection from erosion and landslide and they want you to have a posted 35 ft setback from them when the road has lasted for 90 + years we are not using common sense- this happened to me!. sometimes going into the steep slope area can help stabilize but this is hard to prove to the staff!- so you can get exempted from the steep slope ordinance when the steep slope was caused by a road cut but they pretend to ignore the 90+ year history of how the cut behaves in the last 90 years of earthquakes, rainstorms and development
3. How can we improve protection of critical area functions and values while allowing reasonable development opportunities?  
i think the goal of the steep slope ordinance and other ECA rules have been put in place to deter development in the areas- since the supreme court has twice overruled the greenbelt ordinance( which is the father of the current ECA process)
4. How can incentives for property owners enhance protection of environmentally critical areas? What incentives should be available for ECA protection?  
we need to develop these areas to avoid more freeways and sprawl! keep people in SEattle and save the cascade foothills and farmlands along I-5- which will allow us to afford to use mass transit- we are basically an island and have a few treasures- Seward park, the arboretum, greenlake, magnuson park, discovery park but it is not realistic to think that every difficult lot left in the city should be left for the neighbors to throw their compost and garbage in! which will increase if we pass the recycle ordinance to a greater degree!!

(Optional) If you have questions about the Environmentally Critical Areas Update Process, please include your contact information:

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Zip 98118

*Please save an electronic copy of your completed form.*

To return the form, attach the file to a new e-mail message addressed to [Miles.Mayhew@seattle.gov](mailto:Miles.Mayhew@seattle.gov)  
\*or\* print the form and FAX it (206) 233-7883, ATTN: Miles Mayhew.